

## **CLAIM AMENDMENTS:**

1. (previously presented) A multilayer release liner, comprising:  
a backing;  
a support layer covering the backing;  
a silicone-containing layer covering the support layer, the silicone layer having a release surface wherein a lower amount of silicone is present in each successive 1  $\mu\text{m}$  depth from the release surface to the 1  $\mu\text{m}$  depth in which at least 50% of the total silicone in the silicone-containing layer is between that 1  $\mu\text{m}$  depth and the release surface.
2. (original) The release liner of Claim 1, where more than 50% of the silicone is within 2 micrometers from the release surface.
3. (original) The release liner of Claim 2, wherein more than 70% of the silicone is within 2 micrometers from the release surface.
4. (original) The release liner of Claim 1, wherein the silicone distribution is nonlinear to a total silicone content of at least 70%.
5. (original) The release liner of Claim 1, wherein the silicone distribution is nonlinear to a total silicone content of at least 90%.
6. (canceled).
7. (canceled).
8. (canceled).
9. (currently amended) The multilayer release liner of Claim 4, wherein ~~the solids of the release layer are~~ comprises solids formed at least in part of silicone.
10. (canceled).

11. (original) The multilayer release liner of Claim 9, wherein the solids of the silicone-containing layer are substantially all silicone solids.

12. (currently amended) A pressure-sensitive adhesive label construction incorporating a multilayer release liner comprising:

a backing;

a support layer on the backing;

a release layer on the support layer; and

wherein ~~the support layer and the release layer are~~ comprises silicone and is deposited on the support layer substantially simultaneously when the support layer is deposited on the backing so that domains of the silicone are defined in the support layer, the release layer defining a release surface, at least 40% of the silicone being within 1  $\mu$ m of the release surface.

13. (currently amended) The pressure sensitive adhesive label construction of Claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ a 90° Peel Release Force ~~measured on a TLMI Lab Master instrument~~ at a rate of 7.62 m/min is less than about 40 cN/25 mm.

14. (currently amended) The pressure sensitive adhesive label construction of Claim 13, wherein ~~the~~ a 90° Peel Release Force ~~measured on a TLMI Lab Master instrument~~ at a rate of 7.62 m/min is less than about 20 cN/25 mm.

Claims 15-20 (canceled).

21. (new) A multilayer release liner, comprising:

a backing;

a support layer on the backing;

a release layer that comprises silicone disposed on the support layer and dispersed sufficiently into the support layer for substantially bonding said release layer to said support layer while providing a substantially continuous release surface of said release layer across said multilayer release liner, whereby the bonding of the release layer to the support layer decreases a propensity of the release layer to separate and whereby the substantially continuous release surface exhibits desirable release properties.

22. (new) The multilayer release liner of claim 21, wherein the dispersal of the release layer into the support layer is defined by domains of the silicone of the release layer that are disposed in the support layer.

23. (new) The multilayer release liner of claim 22, wherein at least 40% of the silicone is within 1  $\mu\text{m}$  of the release surface.

24. (new) The multilayer release liner of claim 23, wherein at least 70% of the silicone is within 2  $\mu\text{m}$  of the release surface.

25 (new) The multilayer release liner of claim 24, wherein the release surface exhibits a 90° peel release force at a rate of 7.6 m/min of less than about 40 cN/25 mm.

26. (new) The multilayer release liner of claim 25, wherein the release surface exhibits a 90° peel release force at a rate of 7.6 m/min of less than about 20 cN/25 mm.